

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 OMB-01 DRC-01 /118 W

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R 201428Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9848

INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

CONFIDENTIAL TEL AVIV 7412

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IS, US

SUBJECT: KNESSET VOTES DOWN RIGHWING PROPOSAL FOR PLENARY DEBATE ON
JACKSON AMENDMENT

1. ON SEPTEMBER 19 KNESSET, MEETING IN SPECIAL SESSION ON
MOTION BY LIKUD (ISRAEL'S NEW RIGHWING BLOC), VOTED DOWN BY
30-21 RIGHWING PROPOSAL FOR PLENARY DISCUSSION OF JACKSON
AMENDMENT. UPON RECOMMENDATION FONMIN, KNESSET
REMANDED ISSUE TO DISCUSSION IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE
COMMITTEE. THIS ACTION SQUASHES FURTHER KNESSET ACTION UNTIL
AFTER OCTOBER 30 ELECTIONS AND CONVOCATION NEXT KNESSET.

2. FONMIN EBAN, INSPEAKING AGAINST MOTION AND ANSWERING
RINGING CRITICISMS BY OPPOSITION OF GOI INACTION THIS SUBJECT,
STATED THAT THERE WAS NO CONTRADICTION BETWEEN WHAT US ADMIN-
ISTRATION WAS DOING ON BEHALF OF SOVIET JEWRY AND WHAT CONGRESS
OR PUBLIC OPINION WERE DOING. IT WAS NEITHER REALISTIC NOR
WISE FOR ISRAEL TO IDENTIFY WITH OR PIT ONE APPROACH AGAINST
THE OTHER. EBAN FURTHER STATED THAT LIKUD OPPOSITION SPEAKERS
IN DEBATE FAILED TO GIVE ADEQUATE WEIGHT TO WHAT HAD BEEN
ACHIEVED ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL PLANE AND THAT RATE OF SOVIET
IMMIGRATION THUS FAR WAS AN OPENING FOR WHAT WOULD SURELY
FOLLOW. HE IN EFFECT SAID THAT SINCE US BECAME SEIZED WITH
ISSUE OF SOVIET JEWRY THREE YEARS AGO, SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION
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HAD MARKEDLY INCREASED.

3. COMMENT: EBAN'S INTERVENTION WAS RIGHT ON MARK, AS FAR AS
USG IS CONCERNED. I HAVE INSTRUCTED DCM INFORMALLY TO CONVEY
TO EBAN THROUGH A SENIOR MFA AIDE MY PERSONAL APPRECIATION
FOR HIS EFFORTS. IF QUERIED BY PRESS, EBAN COULD STILL
PROPERLY REPLY WE HAD NOT RAISED SUBJECT WITH HIM, BUT HE
SHOULD KNOW WE THINK HE DID A GOOD JOB.

KEATING

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30 JUN 2005

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